LITERARY NOTES

Mr. Crawford's "Roman Singer" will be rather a ong story. It will run through The Atlantic for the coming half-year.

Mrs. Oliphant, who has apparently an endless capacity for composition, is now living in Venice. She is about to bring out a work on that city, in addition to her promised novel of "Hester." would be interesting to know how well Mrs. Olihant could write if restricted to one book in two or

The Wheelman grows brighter, breezier and more artistic with every number. It is a magazine invaluable to those who love "the merry machine." The illustrations of the December number are admirable, and the reminiscences of bicycling travel and adventure are interesting even to mere laymen. The bound volume of the magazine for the past six months is a mine of pleasant suggestion for the bicyclist.

The British people seem to take a sentimental interest at least in the miseries of their poor. No fewer than twenty thousand copies of Mr. G. R. Sims's book, " How the Poor Live," were ordered by the trade in advance of publication.

Scribner & Welford announce the "first complete and uniform edition of the historical and posthumous 'Memoirs' of Sir Nathaniel William Wraxall." The work is, it will be remembered, a chronicle of that period in British history especially interesting to Americans-the years between 1772

Mr Tennyson's new poem on "Early Spring"published by The Youths Companion at the cost of \$1,000-is a painfully weak production. It hardly reaches, indeed, the level of the ordinary newspaper poetry. These verses for example, are not exactly worth \$125 each:

Opens a door in Heaven;
From skies of glass
A Jacob's-ladder falls

On greening grass, And o'er the mountain-walls Young angels pass.

Before them fleets the shower, And burst the buds, And saine the level lands, And flash the floods; The stars are from their hands Flung thro' the woods;

The woods by living airs
How freshly faun'd,
Light airs from where the deep,
All down the saud,
Is breathing in his sleep,
Heard by the land I

The printing of illustrated papers is done so much more cheaply in London than in Paris that the Figaro is having its magnificently illustrated Christmas number printed in the former city. The presses on which this has been placed cost \$1,000 each; in Paris they would cost \$3,000 to \$3,500.

There is in The Antiquary a curious and entertaining article showing the remarkable slowness of the world in the development of agricultural matters. The evidence derived from the comparison of ancient and comparatively modern implements is that presented by the writer.

Time has not been permitted to change the old Leather Bottle Inn at Cobham, Kent, nor its parlor so minutely described in the "Pickwick Papers," wherein Mr. Tupman on a memorable occasion was discovered. Within and without the quaint inn remains as it was fifty years ago, and is in the hands of a landlord and landlady proud of its associations.

Kate Greenaway's Almanac for 1884 (George Routledge & Sons) is the prettiest and quaintest of trifling gifts. Her little tripping figures of lads and lasses, so delicately drawn and colored, show earnest study and increased power in this conscientious artist.

The Magazine of American History for December has some excellent papers on Christmas-time in Colonial America. The best of these is Mr John Esten Cooke's graphic description of the holiday in Old Virginia. It is enriched by some very attractive illustrations.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

LIFE AND TIMES OF JESUS THE MESSIAH. By Aifred Eder-shein, M. A., Oxon, D. D., Ph. D. 2 vols, 8vo. pp. 695 —821. (Auson D. F. Randolph & Co.)

HISTORY OF THE CARPENTER FAMILY. By James Usher. 8vo. pp. 70. paper. (James Usher.) New Compendium of Practical and Artistic Penman-ship. By D. T. Ames, 4to. (D. T. Ames.)

THE TINKHAM BROTHERS' TIDE-MILL. By J. T. Trowbridge, 16mo, pp. 326, (Boston; Lee & Shepard.) AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND LETTERS OF ORVILLE DEWEY, D. D. 12100, pp. 366. (Boston: Roberts Bros.) St. Nicholas. Vol. X. Part 1 and 2.

E CENTURY. Hustrated Monthly Magazine. 1883, to October, 1883.

HEALTH IN THE HOUSEROLD; OB, HYGIENIC COOKERY. By Susanna W. Dedds, M. D. 12mo, pp. 602. (Fowler & Wells.)

wells.)

AN ELEON WHITTEN IN A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD. By Thomas Gray. Large 8vo. pp. 47. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.)

MARTIN LUTHER. By Julius Koestlin. 16mo. pp. 145. (Cassell & Co.)

THE TES THEOPHANIES. By Rev. William M. Baker, D. D. 12mo. pp. 247. (Anson D. F. Randolph & Co.) THE AGNOSTIC POEMS. By Henry Niles Pierce, D. D., LL.D. 16mo. pp. 120. (Thomas Whittaker.) HOLLY SPRAYS. By Lucia E. F. Kimball, 16mo pp. 128. (National Temperance Society and Publishing House.) THE POSTRY OF OTHER LANDS. By N. Clemmons Hunt. 12mo. pp. 445. (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.) The Queen's Body-Guand. By Margaret Vandegrift. 16mo. (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.)

THE GOLDEN TREASURY OF SONGS AND LYRICS. By Francis T. Paigrave. Svo. pp. 455. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.) ▲ HISTORY OF ANCIENT SCULPTURE. By Lucy M. Mitchell. Large 8vo. pp. 766. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)

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IX. PUNCH AND JUDY ON BOSTON COMMON-"Playing to a Light Business." X. ONE CHRISTMAS.

XI. THE CHILD'S ADDRATION OF THE INFANT SAVIOUR. A Picture of Christanas in Italy. There are also several fine pictures illustrative of Christmas

Among the Poems of the Number are the following "THE COMING OF THE MASTER." By Christina Ros-

"BETHLEHEM." By Miss G. A. Davis.

The Table of Contents includes Stories by Ausburn Towner.

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George Kyle, Helen Whitney Clarke and others, together with
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